

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A system for providing a file in multiple languages,
2 comprising:
3 a file having text for displaying in multiple languages;
4 a string identifier for uniquely identifying each text in said file;
5 a language identifier for uniquely identifying each language
6 available for said file;
7 a localized string for displaying text defined by said string
8 identifier and said language identifier;
9 a message catalog for storing a plurality of said localized strings;
10 and,
11 a localized string retrieval function for retrieving said localized
12 string according to said string identifier and said language identifier from said
13 message catalog.
- 1 2. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said localized
2 string retrieval function retrieves said localized string according to said string
3 identifier and said language identifier from said message catalog for each text
4 in said file.
- 1 3. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said localized
2 string retrieval function retrieves said localized string responsive to a request
3 for said file.
- 1 4. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said message
2 catalog includes a default language.
- 1 5. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said file, said
2 message catalog, and said localized string retrieval function are stored on a
3 single storage medium.

1 6. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said file, said
2 message catalog, and said localized string retrieval function are stored as a
3 single firmware.

1 7. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said file, said
2 message catalog, and said localized string retrieval function are stored as a
3 single application.

4 8. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said file, said
5 message catalog, and said localized string retrieval function are stored on a web
6 server.

1 9. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said localized
2 string retrieval function is stored in said file.

1 10. The system as defined in claim 1 wherein said file is in
2 Hyper Text Markup Language.

1 11. The system as defined in claim 10 wherein said localized
2 string retrieval function is C code embedded in said file in Hyper Text Markup
3 Language.

1 12. A method for providing a file in multiple languages using
2 a device linked to a message catalog having a plurality of localized strings for
3 displaying text in the file, wherein each localized string is defined by a string
4 identifier that uniquely identifies each text in the file and a language identifier
5 that uniquely identifies each language available for the file, comprising the
6 steps of:

7 requesting a file in a specified language by the user;
8 identifying the specified language;
9 contacting the message catalog with the string identifier and the
10 specified language; and,

11 returning the localized string designated by the string identifier
12 and specified language.

1 13. The method according to claim 12 further comprising the
2 step displaying the localized string to the user.

1 14. The method according to claim 12 further comprising the
2 step of returning the length of the localized string designated by the string
3 identifier and specified language.

4 15. The method according to claim 12 further comprising the
5 step of specifying a language by the user.

1 16. The method according to claim 12 wherein prior to the
2 step of identifying the specified language further comprising the steps of:

3 executing a get language identifier function; and,
4 obtaining a language identifier from the get language identifier
5 function.

1 17. The method according to claim 16 wherein said step of
2 executing a get language identifier function further comprising the steps of:

3 determining whether the message catalog is supported by the
4 device; and,

5 returning a default language of the message catalog when the
6 message catalog is not supported.

1 18. The method according to claim 17 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 determining whether the language has been specified by the user;

4 returning the user specified language when a language is
5 specified by the user; and,

6 returning a default language of the message catalog when a
7 language is not specified by the user.

1 19. The method according to claim 17 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 determining whether there is a default language of the device;
4 returning the specified language when there is a default language
5 of the computing device; and,
6 returning a default language of the message catalog when there is
7 no default language of the computer device.

1 20. The method according to claim 12 wherein prior to the
2 step of contacting the message catalog further comprising the step of contacting
3 the message catalog with the character set identifier.

1 21. A system for providing a file in multiple languages using a
2 device linked to a message catalog having a plurality of localized strings for
3 displaying text in the file, wherein each localized string is defined by a string
4 identifier that uniquely identifies each text in the file and a language identifier
5 that uniquely identifies each language available for the file, comprising:
6 means for requesting a file in a specified language by the user;
7 means for identifying the specified language;
8 means for contacting the message catalog with the string
9 identifier and the specified language; and,
10 means for returning the localized string designated by the string
11 identifier and specified language.

1 22. A computer program product comprising a computer
2 usable medium having computer readable program codes embodied in the
3 medium that when executed causes a computer to:

4 request a file in a specified language by the user;
5 identify the specified language;

6 contact the message catalog with the string identifier and the
7 specified language; and,

8 return the localized string designated by the string identifier and
9 specified language.

1 23. A computer program product comprising a computer
2 usable medium having computer readable program codes embodied in the
3 medium that when executed causes a peripheral device to:

4 request a file in a specified language by the user;

5 identify the specified language;

6 contact the message catalog with the string identifier and the
7 specified language; and,

8 return the localized string designated by the string identifier and
9 specified language.